

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 63

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Alexa Austin upon her receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated their time and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1.1 million Tennessee volunteers give over 143.9 million hours of community service, contributing \$3.4 billion to Tennessee's economy; and

WHEREAS, they are the backbone of our communities, and by giving their time and talents to fulfill needs that would otherwise go unmet, they embody the spirit of giving; and

WHEREAS, these individuals should be recognized, not only to appreciate their efforts, but also in the hope that it will encourage others to step up and make a difference; and

WHEREAS, Alexa Austin of Newport is one such exemplary person, who is a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award in recognition of her laudable commitment to her community; and

WHEREAS, an eighth-grade honor roll student at Newport Grammar School, Alexa Austin volunteers at Wellington Place, a local assisted living facility; she began making daily visits in sixth grade to visit her great-grandfather, who moved in after developing rapid onset dementia; during her visits, she became friends with the other residents, visiting with these senior citizens and helping the staff serve them; and

WHEREAS, as a part of Wellington Place's team, Ms. Austin began raising money on her own for Alzheimer's Tennessee; last year, she raised over \$9,000, and she has already begun raising money for the 2017 campaign; and

WHEREAS, since her great-grandfather's death, Alexa Austin has continued her visits to Wellington Place, interacting with residents and doing all she can to help them enjoy their day; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Austin is a model citizen, and her commitment to helping others through volunteerism is representative of the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Alexa Austin for her outstanding community leadership, congratulate her as an esteemed recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.